Math 118 Fall 2002 Homework 1

NAME:

E-MAIL:

Let P = P(t) be a function that represents the size of a population at some time t. Consider the following differential equation: P' = .017P. This differential equation is an example of a "population growth model".

(a) Why is this name appropriate for the model? How does the equation model how a population might grow?

(b) What type of function must P(t) be in order to satisfy the equation? What is your reasoning? (Note: You are not asked to solve the equation.)